

STATINTL

Good Morning!

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is none else. And my people shall never again be put to shame.—Joel 2:27.

Converting grace puts God on the throne, and the world at His footstool; Christ is in the heart, and the world under His feet.

—Joseph Alleine.

Why Lodge?

Why would President Kennedy name Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., member of a Republican family with which the Kennedys have been feuding politically in Massachusetts for three generations, ambassador to Vietnam?

True, Lodge has excellent qualifications for this ambassadorial post, and politics ought not to enter into the selection of ambassadors if we are to get the best obtainable men to represent us abroad. But such jobs in the past nearly always have been awarded as a return for past political of financial assistance.

In this case, Kennedy is not doing Lodge any favors. The Vietnamese assignment is a tough one, and Lodge will need all the skill he possesses to protect U. S. interests in that troubled land. Lodge is doing the United States a favor by accepting this difficult post.

To many it will be regarded as a continuation of President Kennedy's habit of giving some of the toughest jobs, not to Democratic friends, but to Republicans. Secretary of Defense McNamara, currently holding down the second most difficult job in Washington, is a Republican. Douglas Dillon, Kennedy's Secretary of the Treasury, is a Republican. McGeorge Bundy, a top presidential advisor, is a Republican. Allen Dulles, former Central Intelligence Agency head, is a Republican. So are many other top administration aides.

The charitable might be inclined to regard this as an attempt by the President to obtain a measure of bipartisan-ship in the conduct of the nation's affairs. Some cynics might see it as a move to put Republicans in tough spots where, if things go wrong, the GOP will get blamed.

The real reason for naming Republicans to such jobs probably is a combination of the two, plus the fact that there has developed in this country a "ruling class," so to speak, which operates at the federal level no matter which party happens to be in control.

Both the Dulles boys, John Foster and Allen, worked for President Roosevelt quite happily during FDR's terms of office, and returned to serve President Eisenhower when he was in office.

The Dulleses are merely two of the many Americans who are willing and able to run federal agencies and bureaus no matter which political party is in power. The State Department has thousands of employees who stay in place regardless of how the elections turn out, and in the opinion of many this is part of our problem.

American voters may think they are throwing the rascals out when they vote against incumbent politicians, but the sad truth appears to be that too many of the rascals stay right where